

The image shows the front cover of a book. The main part of the cover is decorated with a marbled paper pattern featuring large, irregular, reddish-brown or terracotta-colored shapes, some of which have concentric circles or 'bullseye' patterns. These shapes are separated by a network of dark blue or black lines. A solid dark brown or black spine is visible on the left side. At the bottom left, there is a small, dark rectangular label with gold-colored text. The text on the label is arranged in two lines: '138. d.' on the top line and '211.' on the bottom line. A faint 'Digitized by Google' watermark is visible in the lower right corner of the marbled area.

138. d.
211.



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Devotions

FOR THE

SEASON OF ADVENT,

AND THE

FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS.



These Devotions are divided into portions, so as to suit the opportunities of different persons.

O LORD JESU CHRIST, for Thy First Coming in the Flesh,
for Thy Kingdom of Grace and Mercy,
for all the love and pity of Thy First Visitation,
all love, all glory be to Thee.

O LORD JESU CHRIST, for the glorious hope of Thy
Second Coming
in Thy Kingdom of Glory,
when Thou shalt come with all Thy Heavenly Court,
and legions shall gather round Thee,
the Sun of Righteousness,
ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of
thousands,
when the righteous shall arise from the grave,
and all the earth be lightened with Thy Glory,
for the blessed hope of that Day of gladness and
exceeding joy,
all love, all glory, all praise be to Thee.

O LORD JESU CHRIST, Whose Coming is both believed
in the Incarnation,
and looked for in the Judgment,
have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us,
cleanse us before Thou comest from all defilements of sin,
that when Thou comest,
Thou mayst not find in us aught to condemn.

O LORD JESU, Who hast sent Thy Messengers to prepare Thy way before Thee, give us grace to serve Thee now with purified hearts, and with the utmost watchfulness to wait for Thy Coming, that we may prepare our souls like shining lamps to meet Thee; so that when Thou comest and knockest, Thou mayest find us not sleeping in sins, but watching and rejoicing in Thy promises. Amen. Amen.

O JESU CHRIST, SON of Mary,
I believe that Thou wilt come to be my Judge!
O Thou Who camest to seek and to save that which
was lost,
O Thou GOD of penitents, SAVIOUR of sinners!
have mercy upon me, give ear unto my prayer;
fearfulness and trembling are come upon me,
and the fear of death is fallen upon me.

How terrible is Thy Judgment Seat, O God !
when the thrones are set, and the Angels stand around,
and men brought in, and the books opened,
and the works sifted,
and the thoughts scrutinized,
and the hidden things of darkness made known :

What will be the Judgment against me?
when there is the Incorruptible Judge, and the tremendous
Tribunal,
and the excuseless defence, and the accusation
undeniable,
the place on the left hand,
and the terrible sentence, "Depart, ye cursed,"
the fearful punishment, the yawning hell,
and the pitiless angels,
the roaring river of fire, and that fire unquenchable,
the prison of darkness, and the darkness rayless,
the undying worm and the chains never to be loosed,
the gulf that cannot be passed, and the cry inconsolable,
none to stand by me, none to plead for me, none to
snatch me out!

Oh, spare me, Good LORD,
Spare me a sinner,
whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy precious Blood.

Behold, O LORD !

I adjudge myself worthy of punishment everlasting,
yea, and all the miseries of this world.

From Thee, O LORD, I have deserved death,
from Thee the Just One ;

but yet to Thee, O LORD, I appeal,
to Thee the Merciful One ;

from the Tribunal of Justice to the Mercy Seat of Grace,
O enter not into judgment with Thy servant !

I am less than the least of all Thy mercies ;
I am not worthy to be the lowest of Thine hired servants ;
I am not worthy to gather the crumbs that fall from
Thy table ;

I am not worthy to touch the hem of Thy garment.
And now, O LORD, humbling myself under Thy mighty
hand,

I bend my knees to Thee.

I stretch forth my hands unto Thee ;

My soul gaspeth unto Thee as a thirsty land.

I dare not so much as lift up my eyes to heaven,
but I smite upon my breast,—

LORD, O LORD, be merciful unto me of sinners
the chiefest, the greatest.

O LORD, let Thy mercy rejoice against Thy Justice in
my sin ;

where sin hath abounded, there let Grace more
exceedingly abound.

O LORD, hear ; O LORD, forgive ; O LORD, hearken and do ;
defer not for Thine own sake, O my God !

Remember me, O LORD,
with the favour that Thou bearest unto Thy people,

O visit me with Thy salvation :
that I may see the happiness of Thy chosen,
and rejoice in the gladness of Thy people,
and give thanks with Thine inheritance.

There is glory which shall be revealed ;
for when the Judge cometh,
some shall see Thy face cheerful,
and shall be placed on the right,
and shall hear those most welcome words,
“ Come, ye blessed.”

They shall be caught up in clouds to meet the LORD :
 they shall enter into gladness,
 they shall enjoy the sight of Him,
 they shall be ever with Him.

O to me, the meanest, grant the meanest place,
 there under the feet of Thine elect.

And that this may be,
 let me find grace in Thy sight,
 to have grace to serve Thee acceptably,
 with reverence and godly fear.

Let me find that second grace,
 not to receive in vain the first grace,
 not to come short of it ;
 yea, not to neglect it, so as to fall from it,
 but to stir it up, so as to increase in it,
 yea, to abide in it till the end of my life.

And O perfect for me what is lacking of Thy gifts,
 help Thou my unbelief,
 establish my trembling hope,
 kindle the smoking flax of my love.
 Shed abroad Thy love in my heart,
 so that I may love Thee,
 my friend in Thee, my enemy for Thee.

O Thou, who givest grace to the humble-minded,
 also give me grace to be humble-minded.

O Thou, Who never failest those who fear Thee,
 my Fear and my Hope,
 let me fear one thing only,
 the fearing aught more than Thee.

As I would that men should do to me,
 so may I do to them.

Shine on those who sit in darkness, and the shadow
 of death :

Guide our feet into the way of peace,
 that we may have the same thoughts one with another,
 to walk in the same rule as far as we have attained,
 to be steadfast in the Truth,
 that we may with one accord, with one mouth,
 glorify God.

The following prayers may be added during Advent, according to opportunity.

Grant, we beseech Thee, O FATHER, unto Thy people the Spirit of truth and peace ; that through the Coming of Thine Only-begotten SON they may know Thee with their whole mind, and follow with their whole heart what is pleasing unto Thee. Amen.

Grant to Thy suppliant people the fulness of Thy grace, that with Thy aid following Thy Commandments, they may receive consolation in this life and in that to come. Amen.

O LORD, be near to all who look for Thee in truth, that at the Coming of Thy SON we may be presented unto Thee with deeds well pleasing in Thy sight. Amen.

O LORD, we beseech Thee lend Thy merciful ears to our voice, and lighten the darkness of our hearts by the light of Thy visitation. Stretch forth the right hand of Thy Majesty, and pardon and absolve us from our sins. Give unto us the compassion of Thy tender mercy : that we, who through our own sins are afflicted, may, by the Coming of our SAVIOUR be redeemed. Amen.

O LORD, we beseech Thee look upon us, Thine unworthy servants, and those whom the guilt of their own sins saddeneth, do Thou gladden by the Coming of Thine Only-begotten SON, Who, with Thee and the HOLY GHOST liveth and reigneth ever One God. Amen. Amen.

To be used only by those who are Communicants.

O LORD, we beseech Thee cleanse our consciences by Thy visitation, that Thy SON JESUS CHRIST our LORD may, when He cometh, find in us a dwelling place prepared for Himself. Amen.

O LORD, we beseech Thee let the Sacrifice of our devotion in the Holy Mysteries be unceasingly offered to Thee, that we may be filled with the food of spiritual nourishment, and that Thy Gifts may preserve us in body and soul to everlasting life, through the Coming of Thine Only-begotten SON. Amen.

On the nearer approach of Christmas.

O Almighty God, let Thy grace, we beseech Thee, alway prevent and follow us, that through the Coming of Thine Only-begotten, Whom with the utmost longings of our heart we wait for, we may obtain all which is needful both for this present life, and for that which is to come. Amen.

Grant, O LORD, that we, who are weighed down under the yoke of sin, through the servitude of the old man, may be set free by the new Birth of Thine Only-begotten Son. Amen.

Grant that the coming Festival of Thy SON, may both supply us with healing remedies for this life, and bestow upon us everlasting rewards. Amen.

Grant that like as we do prepare for the adorable Nativity of Thy SON, so we may be found worthy to receive with joy His everlasting gifts. Amen.

On the Eve of the Nativity.

O Thou, Most Holy LORD, Who hast willed that the great joy of Thy Nativity should be by Angels announced to the Shepherds ; pour upon us the all refreshing dew of Thy Blessing ; and Thyself our Shepherd, lead us to the everlasting pastures of everlasting joy.

O Thou, Who by the light of Thy Incarnation, hast dispelled the darkness of this world, and shed Thy bright beams upon this all-holy night, dispel from us the darkness of sin, and shed upon our hearts the bright beams of Thy Light.

O God, Who hast made this all-holy night to shine with the enlightening of the True Light ; grant, that we who have known the mysteries of that Light on earth may have the full fruition of Thy joys in Heaven.

ON THE FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS.

O LORD JESU CHRIST, GOD of GOD,
 Light of Light, GOD of the substance of the FATHER,
 begotten before the worlds,
 Man of the substance of Thy Mother, born in the world,
 Perfect GOD and perfect Man,
 we believe and confess that Thou art GOD and Man ;
 All love, all glory, all worship, be to Thee.

O Thou Most Holy LORD,
 Who Invisible in Thy Substance as GOD,
 didst as on this day through the flesh appear visible
 in our Substance as Man,
 All love, all glory, all praise, be to Thee.

O Thou, Who for us men and for our salvation didst
 come down from Heaven,
 and wast born of the Virgin Mary, and made man,
 All love, all glory, all praise be to Thee.

Almighty and Everlasting GOD, Who hast consecrated
 this day by the Incarnation of Thy Word; and the Birth
 from the Blessed Virgin Mary ; grant unto Thy people,
 a fellowship in this Mystery, that through the SAVIOUR
 of the world, born this day, we may be partakers of His
 Divinity, Who vouchsafed to become Partaker of our
 humanity, that He Who is the Author of our Divine
 Birth, may Himself be to us the Giver of Immortality.
 Amen.

Grant, we beseech Thee, Almighty GOD, that the new
 Nativity of Thine Only-begotten SON in the Flesh may
 free us, whom the servitude of the old man holdeth under
 the yoke of sin ; grant that Thy salvation, which on this
 festive day came forth in new and wondrous light from
 Heaven, for the saving of the world, may ever dawn to
 renew our hearts. Amen.

Almighty GOD, Who hast given us Thy Only-begotten
 SON to take our nature upon Him, and as at this time to
 be born of a pure Virgin ; Grant that we being regene-
 rate, and made Thy children by adoption and grace, may
 daily be renewed by Thy HOLY SPIRIT ; through the

same our LORD JESUS CHRIST, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the same SPIRIT, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

Grant, we beseech Thee, to Thy people, O LORD, undefiled firmness in faith, that we, who do confess Thine Only-begotten, Co-eternal SON, equal with Thee in glory, to have been born of a Virgin Mother, in the real substance of our flesh, may be, in Him, both freed from present adversities, and be translated to abiding joys. Amen.

O good JESU, grant that as through Thine Incarnation the new light of Thy Brightness hath shone upon our hearts, so we visibly knowing Thee as God, may through Thee be borne away by the love of things invisible.

O Blessed JESU, may Thou abide with us, and dwell in us, Thou in us, and we in Thee, and make us one in Thy Mystical Body, now and for evermore. Amen.

O Blessed SPIRIT, cleanse with Thy purifying fire our hearts and bodies; renew us day by day by Thy power, that the fruits of the Incarnation of the LORD may be seen in our lives, and fill Thy whole Church, and the whole world, with the Light and Joy and Peace of His Nativity, that His second Coming in glory may be hastened, and the elect be gathered in, and the just be perfected in the Eternal and Everlasting Kingdom. Amen. Amen.

Glory to GOD in the highest,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.



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